

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the ends Thou Aims't at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June, 1898.

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SHIPYARD STRIKE SPREADS.

WORKERS IN NEW YORK DISTRICT REFUSE TO WORK UNTIL DEMANDS ARE GRANTED.

Demand Large Increase in Pay and Representation on Wage Adjustment Board—Threaten to Tie up All Atlantic Coast Yards.

New York, Feb. 16.—Approximately fifty per cent. of the shipyard workers in the New York district are on strike today, according to claims by brotherhood officials. The strike would spread to other cities along the coast, they said, unless the wage demands are granted. The number of men now out they declared to be seven to eight thousand. The government has rejected the proposition made by the carpenters' brotherhood that the shipworkers be allowed to place a representative on the labor adjustment board of the Emergency Fleet Corporation to settle the present wage controversy, it was announced.

Conference on Shipyard Strike. Washington, Feb. 16.—Chairman Hurley of the shipping board, General Manager Piez, of the Emergency Fleet Corporation, and Chairman Macy of the labor adjustment board conferred with Acting Secretary of Navy Roosevelt today on the shipyard strikes.

APPEAL TO PRESIDENT.

Shipyard Workers Will Take Their Case to Headquarters.

New York, Feb. 16.—An appeal direct to President Wilson to intervene in the strike of shipyard workers engaged on government contracts will be made today by the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, it was announced by officials of that organization here.

MANY CHILDREN PERISH.

Thirty-eight Burned to Death in Montreal Fire.

Montreal, Feb. 14.—The charred bodies of 38 children had been recovered late tonight from the ruins of the Grey Nunnery which was destroyed by fire. It is feared many more perished and searchers believe the toll of death might reach 100.

All the inmates of the Grey buildings except the children are believed to have escaped. These included nuns, nursing sisters, wounded or sick soldiers from overseas, aged, sick or crippled men and women to the number of almost 1,000.

When the flames were discovered in the west wing the alarm was quickly given and all those able to help themselves fled to places of safety. The heroic nuns and nursing sisters strove valiantly to save the sick and wounded as well as the infants under their charge.

The children were housed in the section of the building where the fire started and the flames spread so rapidly it was impossible to save them all.

None of the soldiers suffered injury, however, although nearly 200 of them were quartered in the building.

The ages of the inmates of the nunnery ranged from two or three days to almost a hundred years. Many of the infants who died in the fire and whose names were only a few days or a few weeks old.

The elderly inmates were housed in another section of the nunnery and were not immediately menaced by the flames.

U-BOAT BOMBARDS DOVER.

Attack Made in Broad Daylight by German Submarine Cruiser.

London, Feb. 16.—An enemy submarine bombarded Dover this morning, it is officially announced. When fired on from the shore batteries the u-boat ceased the bombardment, after about 30 rounds had been fired. There were less than a dozen casualties and only slight property damage.

NAVAL BATTLE RUMORED.

Bodies of Many German Sailors Washed Up on Swedish Coast.

London, Feb. 16.—The belief that a naval engagement has occurred is expressed in a dispatch received at Stockholm from Gothenburg and forwarded by the correspondent of the Morning Post. The dispatch reports the recovery of a large number of bodies of German sailors who apparently belonged to a warship.

Gothenburg is on the western coast of Sweden, near the Skagarrak.

WILSON WRITES STRIKERS.

REFUSAL TO WORK MEANS AID FOR ENEMY.

President Denies Right of Men to Quit Jobs Until Adjustment Effort Fails.

Washington, Feb. 17.—President Wilson took a hand tonight in the Eastern shipyard labor strikes and issued a sharp rebuke to William L. Hutcheson, president of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, who after refusing to send striking ship carpenters back to work pending action by the shipbuilding labor adjustment board, had asked for a personal conference to lay the situation before the president.

In effect the president declared that if Hutcheson did not want to give aid and comfort to the enemy he would send the men to work and leave a settlement of differences to the adjustment board and declined to see him until he had done so.

The president sent this telegram to the union chief:

"General President United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, New York:

"I have received your telegram of yesterday and am very glad to note the expression of your desire as a patriotic citizen to assist in carrying on the work by which we are trying to save America and men everywhere who work and are free. Taking advantage of that assurance, I feel it to be my duty to call your attention to the fact that the strike of the carpenters in the shipyards is in marked and painful contrast to the action of labor in other trades and places. Ships are absolutely necessary for the winning of this war. No one can strike a deadlier blow at the safety of the nation and of its forces on the other side than by interfering with or obstructing the shipbuilding program.

"All the other unions engaged in this indispensable work have agreed to abide by the decisions of the shipbuilding wage adjustment board. That board has dealt fairly and liberally with all who have resorted to it.

"I must say to you very frankly that it is your duty to leave to it the solution of your present differences with your employers and to advise the men whom you represent to return at once to work pending the decision.

"No body of men have the moral right in the present circumstances of the nation to strike until every method of adjustment has been tried to the limit. If you do not act upon this principle you are undoubtedly giving aid and comfort to the enemy whatever may be your own conscious purpose.

"I do not see that anything will be gained by my seeing you personally until you have acted, and acted upon that principle. It is the duty of the government to see that the best possible conditions of labor are maintained, as it is also its duty to see to it that there is no lawless and conscienceless profiteering and that duty the government has accepted and will perform. Will you cooperate or will you obstruct? Woodrow Wilson."

SHIPYARD STRIKE ENDS.

Carpenters and Joiners Returned to Work Today.

New York, Feb. 18.—The strike by carpenters in the Atlantic seaboard shipyards, engaged on government contracts, is over, John Rice, national organizer of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, said today. Several thousand men who are still idle are expected to return to work tomorrow morning. About three thousand returned to work this morning, Rice estimated. In many yards where the men quit this morning they returned when informed that President Hutcheson of the Brotherhood had replied to President Wilson, saying he would endeavor to influence the strikers to return to work, pending a settlement of the grievances by the wage adjustment board.

ELEVEN KILLED BY RUSS.

Murder Squad Makes Two Raids on London.

London, Feb. 18.—Eleven persons were killed and four wounded in the aerial attack on London Saturday, it is announced officially.

Six German planes attempted to reach London Saturday night, but only one was successful. One German plane fell into the sea. Sunday night London was raided again, a number of bombs being dropped in the city.

WAR ON RUSSIA.

GERMANY AND AUSTRIA HAVE NO PEACE WITH BOLSHIEVIKI.

Dr. von Kuehlmann Declares That Trotsky's Demobilization of His Troops Will Not Alter Situation in Regard to Action by Central Powers.

London, Feb. 15.—Russia's withdrawal from the war was a real withdrawal, and the throwing away of all agreements with her former allies, said Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik foreign minister, in reporting to the all-Russian workmen's and soldiers' council on the result of the Brest-Litovsk conference, according to a Russian wireless dispatch received here. The dispatch says the councils approved Trotsky's policy.

Amsterdam, Feb. 15.—That Germany and Austria were still at war with Russia was the belief expressed by Dr. Richard von Kuehlmann, the German foreign secretary at the concluding session of the recent peace conference at Brest-Litovsk after Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik foreign minister, had made his final statement that Russia was out of the war and her armies would be demobilized, but that she would desist from signing a formal peace treaty.

The acts of war, Dr. von Kuehlmann said, ended when Russia and the Teutonic allies signed the armistice, but when the armistice ended the warfare must be revived. He added that because one or two of the contracting parties had demobilized their armies this fact would in no wise alter the situation.

Germany was pictured as a peace-loving, non-aggressive nation in the speech of Dr. von Kuehlmann. Dr. von Kuehlmann said the Russians should have no fear that Germany held any designs on Russia.

"I need only refer Mr. Trotsky to the permanent basis of the German policy which, up to the time when war with Russia was forced on the German people consisted in the preservation of good and friendly relations toward our eastern neighbors," Dr. Kuehlmann declared. "Germany's policy will always continue—as soon as the war has reached a satisfactory conclusion to strive for the friendliest relations with newly organized Russia by avoiding all interference in its internal affairs."

Dr. von Kuehlmann said the German idea in drawing the frontier lines for Poland, Courland and Lithuania was "to observe the racial point of view as suggested by the Russian delegation and we have done this in accordance with historical demarcation and ethnographical position."

"As regards the future lot of these peoples," Dr. von Kuehlmann continued, "although we believe their wishes already have been expressed in accordance with the principle of self-determination we are ready by a systematic extension of existing representative bodies to provide for the possibility of a further expression of the national will on the broadest possible basis."

As to a separate peace with Ukraine, Dr. von Kuehlmann said the central powers must reserve the right to be their own judge as to what states they should recognize. They had recognized the Ukraine, he added, and there was no use discussing that question any further.

Count Czernin, Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, expressed surprise that Trotsky had introduced the subject of the Ukraine at the peace conference.

"The relations between the Ukraine and the Petrograd government," said Count Czernin, "do not concern the central powers, and our conclusion of a peace with the Ukraine can not be regarded as an unfriendly act toward the Petrograd government."

Replying to Trotsky's inquiry regarding the frontier south of Brest-Litovsk, Dr. von Kuehlmann said: "In drawing these frontiers we attempted merely to find a middle course between racial divisions and the historical frontier."

Dr. von Kuehlmann proposed a new peace treaty, to the effect that certain frontier territories which were not defined should no longer be subject to the territorial sovereignty of Russia, and that in the future the lot of these territories should be decided in agreement with their respective peoples according to agreements which Germany or Austria-Hungary shall make with them."

The point was Dr. von Kuehlmann added, that the evacuation of certain territories by the central powers was

FRENCHMEN PRAISE AMERICANS

OUR BOYS DO SPLENDID FIGHTING IN CHAMPAGNE IN SMASHING GERMAN LINES.

English Paper Places No Limit on What American Arms Can Accomplish in War.

London, Feb. 15.—In a leading article on the Americans in action in France the Manchester Guardian says that more noteworthy than the ground gained, valuable as is every inch on this Champagne front, where American batteries were engaged in supporting the French raid of Wednesday, is the fact that the Americans for the first time took part in the fighting.

"There have been American casualties in France before now," continues the Guardian, "but they have been in German attacks by air or artillery fire. This is the first instance in which the Americans have taken part in a formal attack. The French are a polite people, but for that very reason they do not waste compliments and their praise of the part taken by the American heavy guns in this action may be taken exactly at its face value."

"We have persistently warned the people not to expect the American assistance to develop its full value early, but when America does develop her military power we place no limit on what it can accomplish. We must remember that the Americans are the equal of the Germans in pride and energy, and their superiors in population, material resources and mother wit."

PARADES WILL BE LIMITED.

Troops Will Not Be Available For Washington's Birthday Shows.

Washington, Feb. 16.—The railway freight congestion on the Eastern lines and the necessity of moving the last contingent of the National Army will prevent any extensive movement of soldiers to cities for parades on Washington's birthday, Director General McAdoo explained today.

BETTER PAY FOR CLERKS.

Railroad Office Men Make New Agreement.

Savannah, Feb. 16.—R. L. Patterson, clerk of the Seaboard Railroad, who is in Washington, telegraphed the chief of the local council last night that a new working agreement had been made by which the roads agree to give the clerks a twenty per cent. increase in pay and let eight hours constitute a working day.

RAILROAD BILL DEBATE.

Anti-Administration Forces Delay Action by Talk.

Washington, Feb. 16.—Debate on the administration railroad bill was resumed in the senate today with prospects that a final vote cannot be reached before the middle of next week.

OF VITAL IMPORTANCE.

Administration Railroad Bill Should Be Enacted.

Washington, Feb. 16.—Senator Robinson in discussing the administration railroad bill today urged its early enactment as a war measure of vital importance both to the public and government.

promised on condition that the Russians evacuate Turkish territory simultaneously. A sub-committee having failed to reach an agreement on the new frontier proposed by the central powers another meeting was held Sunday, when M. Trotsky made his statement regarding the ending of the war and the demobilization of the Russian army.

After Trotsky had made his final statement, Dr. von Kuehlmann declared that he must only conclude that the central powers were at war with Russia. The acts of war, he added, stopped when the armistice was signed, but when that came to an end these acts of war must revive. The fact that one or two of the contracting parties demobilized their armies would, he continued, in no wise alter this.

Dr. von Kuehlmann then asked Trotsky to state where the frontiers of Russian and whether Russia was willing to resume commercial and legal relations with the central powers. Trotsky replied this his delegation has exhausted all its powers and considered it necessary to return to Petrograd. Communication, he added, might be resumed by wireless.

LABOR COMMITTEE NAMED.

CAPITAL AND LABOR TO BE BROUGHT TOGETHER.

Announcement of Personnel Not Made Until all Members Accept Duty Imposed.

Washington, Feb. 15.—Capital and labor have named the five representatives each was asked by the government to appoint to outline a basis of relations for the period of the war. First sessions of their deliberations probably will be held next week after each side has named one other man to represent the public, making a board of 12.

Announcement of the personnel of the men who were chosen by the national council for industrial safety and the American Federation of Labor is being withheld until the acceptances of several of the men asked to serve have been received. The department of labor is endeavoring to expedite constitution of the board in the hope that unrest would be allayed.

Stories of large profits and exorbitant salaries in war contracts have caused an undercurrent of dissatisfaction in the nation's industrial life which officials regard with uneasiness. Allegations of disloyalty made against workers by some employers have added to the bad feeling. Department officials say many of the charges were unfounded, that the large turnover of workers at certain shipyards have been due largely to impossible living conditions. A widely circulated story of 150 rivets being the limit of work, or less than half the former amount, the officials point out, failed to mention that inefficient management has left the men at some places without tools or compressed air to drive more than that number.

Fundamentals of the labor question—hours, wages, condition and methods of settling grievances—will be discussed by the new board in the hope of reaching an understanding in a general way which can be applied specifically to the carrying conditions in all parts of the country.

Unofficial suggestions for conscription of labor have not found response in government circles according to well informed officials. The power of the government to compel a man to work for the national safety, just as much as to compel another under the draft law to fight for the country, is conceded, providing always that the enforced work is for the government and not for private capital.

The belief expressed in official quarters that the 13th amendment to the constitution prohibiting involuntary service would protect a man against labor under duress for a company deriving profits from a man's labor but not against a work in a government factory, where the result made for the public good and the national safety.

"It is unthinkable," Louis F. Post, assistant secretary of labor said today, "that a man should be forced to work for the private gain of any other person."

Suggestions of coercion of labor received official notice from the department of labor before America's participation in the war was many months old. Such suggestions were termed "unfair," impracticable "and unpatriotic." In Secretary Wilson's annual reports he took into consideration the possibility that conscription might become necessary and announced the department's policy as follows:

"It would seem—that is, if workers were to be conscripted for industrial purposes that the working opportunities to which they were assigned ought to be commandeered, so as to make such workers not coerced servants to employers, but employees of the government itself."

Mr. Post said today that that declaration did not mean the department sanctioned conscription but that if conscription became necessary, it must be preceded by conscription of industry.

FIRE IN JACKSONVILLE.

Business Building Destroyed—Loss \$200,000.

Jacksonville, Feb. 16.—Fire today destroyed the Lingle office and store building. The loss is estimated at two hundred thousand dollars.

FRENCH TAKE SHIPS.

Government Requisitions Entire Merchant Marine.

Paris, Feb. 16.—A decree published in the official journal today provides for the requisition of the entire merchant marine of France on March 10th.

NERVY GRAFTER EXPOSED.

TELEPHONE CLERK POSED AS SPANISH COUNT.

Duped New York Financiers and Had J. P. Morgan & Co. on the String for \$50,000,000 Loan for King of Spain.

New York, Feb. 15.—How a \$15 a week telephone operator, posing as "His Excellency, the Marquis Edmond Rousselot di Castillot, confidential representative of his majesty, King Alfonso XIII of Spain," opened negotiations with the banking house of J. P. Morgan & Company for a loan of \$50,000,000 to Spain and by promising that Spain would enter the war on the side of the entente allies brought the state department into the matter was revealed in the federal court here today when three indictments were returned against Edmond Rousselot under the espionage law.

Rousselot was pressing his plan for the loan when chance caused his arrest on another charge, and his castle in Spain quickly toppled.

William Person Hamilton of the Morgan house was foreman of the grand jury which returned the indictments, and was familiar with the entire transaction because he was the member of the firm to whom the matter was entrusted.

When the subject of the loan was broached to the bank by Rousselot, who had been properly introduced by W. E. D. Stokes of New York City, the bank immediately communicated with Secretary Lansing, who opposed the loan to the Spanish government through an individual and suggested that it be taken up through the regular government channels. Rousselot objected to this method of procedure, explaining that the loan was to be made personally to King Alfonso and it was because of this secret arrangement he could promise that Spain was to join the entente allies.

The negotiations were still underway and Mr. Hamilton had the matter under consideration when Rousselot was arrested on the charge of falsely representing himself as Count Rousselot, a French diplomat here on a secret mission, and being unable to obtain bail, was sent to jail. This led to inquiry, and the whole affair was laid before the grand jury.

It developed that Rousselot had not confined his operations to the bankers' house, but numbered among his confiding friends one woman from whom he had borrowed \$10,000 on oil stocks of doubtful value, but for the redemption of which he had pledged his "ancestral estates."

Another of his friends was a prominent actress, who told the authorities she had been introduced to Count Rousselot and, believing him to be in the French diplomatic service, had visited an English warship in the harbor with him.

Rousselot, with the money obtained from the oil stocks, established himself in a suite in a fashionable hotel, and there received letters which are described as being covered with crests and seals, and addressed to him as "Marquis," "Count" and King's Messenger.

The documents proved to be letters apparently written by Rousselot to himself. One of them, purporting to have come from the King of Spain, bore a large red seal impressed by the stamp of the commissioner of deeds of West Chester County, N. Y. He also had a rubber stamp bearing the words "Minister de la Guerre," which, the authorities allege, he used while posing as a French diplomat. When representing himself as the agent of the king of Spain he used a crest cut from the advertisement of a leading furrier, they declared.

A little later Rousselot moved to the Hotel America, where he told Mr. Stokes, the owner, that he was King Alfonso's confidential agent in this country, and in support of his statement displayed his collection of "credentials." He stated that he expected a visit from Jules Jusserand, the French ambassador, but did not have the necessary funds to entertain him. Mr. Stokes advanced him \$500, and one of the indictments has to do with this transaction. From this conversation, Rousselot succeeded in having Mr. Stokes introduce him to the Morgan firm.

Another indictment charges Rousselot with forging a government license permitting him to visit all warships, and still another alleges the theft of official note paper of the treasury department.

"Use honey in place of sugar," says a food expert. Looks as if we'll have to keep a bee.